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Industries in the Ceded Districts.

* 65 *Q.*—Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state what further steps are proposed to stimulate suitable industries in the Ceded Districts in view of the recurring famines?

The Hon. Sri H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" The Government have under their active consideration a proposal for the appointment of a separate Development Commissioner for drawing up comprehensive proposals for the integrated development and rehabilitation of the Ceded Districts. The question of providing block grants for the development of the tract is also under consideration. The reconstitution of the Ceded District Economic Development Board is also engaging the attention of the Government. A monograph on the development of the Ceded Districts showing all the problems that call for solution and suggestions for various lines of development is under preparation.

" In this connexion the attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given on 28th March 1947 by Hon. Minister (Public Works) on the floor of the Assembly to a question put by Sri S. Nagappa, M.L.A.—vide starred question No. 464 in the printed copy of the Madras Legislative Assembly Proceedings, Volume V, No. 3, dated 28th March 1947."

Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—" I am very grateful to the Hon. Minister for giving me more information than I wanted. May I know when these proposals that are under the active consideration of Government likely to fructify? "

The Hon. Sri H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" They are likely to fructify very early." (Laughter.)

Allotment of spindles.

* 66 *Q.*—Sri B. BHIMA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the names of the allottees of spindles, and if they are companies, the names of the managing agents and the partners thereof, with their occupation and residences and the number of spindles allotted to each;

(*b*) whether the allottees have secured sites and erected buildings and taken necessary action to ensure the establishment of textile mills and installation of machinery and other equipments therein;

(*c*) whether the Government have addressed any communication to the allottees and if so, what is the nature of such communication and what replies have been received from each of them;

(*d*) whether the Government have cancelled any of the allotments made, for the reason that the allottees have no intention of establishing textile mills; and

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(e) whether any others applied for allotment of spindles and if so, what action has been taken in respect of their applications?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" (a) & (b) A statement [a] containing the names of the allottees and other available particulars is placed on the table of the House.

" (c) Yes. All the allottees were asked to furnish information on the following points :—

(1) The number of spindles for which they have already booked orders for machinery; and

(2) how much of them the allottees expect will arrive during this year, next year and later. The details furnished by the allottees are given in statement B[a] placed on the table of the House.

" (d) No Sir.

" (e) Yes. The applications will be considered if and when unutilized spindles become available for further distribution."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" May I know whether the Government have considered the question of stopping all these allotments and nationalizing the textile industry? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" There is no proposal to nationalize textile industry."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know what time they are giving to the allottees to avail of the allotment made to them? May I know whether any particular period has been fixed? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" Sir, the question is mainly dealt with by the Government of India, and the Madras Government is guided mostly by the time Government of India gives to these allottees."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know what is the time given by the Government of India, if it is within the cognizance of the Provincial Government."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" I would request the hon. Member to put a separate question."

The levy of General Sales Tax on commission agents.

* 67 Q.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the date from which commission agents were assessed to General Sales Tax; the reason why they were not taxed before and why they are being taxed subsequently;

(b) the total amount realized from General Sales Tax *from commission agents only* in each of the districts of the Province during each of the years 1943–44, 1944–45, 1945–46 and 1946–47;

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 349–353 infra.